



Disinfecting

By Dave Schell

With so much talk about the Swine Flu in the news I thought it was important to review basic disinfecting procedures. The most important things you can do to protect yourself at work are to wear gloves and not touch your face.

When it comes to cleaning, the proper use of your disinfectant is the most important thing. Most disinfectants still require a ten minute dwell time for maximum effectiveness. Be sure to saturate the area you are cleaning properly and allow the



chemical to sit as long as possible.

Make sure you are using clean rags at all times to avoid cross contaminating different surfaces. Switch out your wet mop heads frequently. Be sure to change you mop water frequently using the proper amount of floor disinfectant in each bucket.

During flu season the cleaning of touch points is important. In a school these areas include door knobs and frames, drinking fountains, desk tops, soap and towel dispensers.

It is also important to disinfect your cleaning equipment at the end of your shift. These items include back pack wands, mop sticks, mop bucket handles, and squirt bottles.

Remember to always wash your hands before going home for the evening. Also, it does not hurt to clean and disinfect personal items such as cell phones, keys, steering wheels, and I-pods. For additional information on swine flu precautions, refer to the CDC recommendation sheet provided last week or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu.com.



Back Packing

By Chris Cappel

Beginning this school year Scarlet & Gray made a company-wide change to its daily floor care procedures. In almost all cases we have switched from dust mopping hard floors to back packing them. I know many of you already made the switch last year.

There are a few reasons we have made this switch. First, back packing will improve indoor air quality by reducing dust. You may have already



noticed the reduction in dust balls in your buildings since making the change. Another positive is that bacteria travels in the air on dust particles, so by back packing, illness may be reduced. You can also clean pencil sharpeners, chalk ledges, and corners better with a back pack. Finally, proper use of a back pack may cut down on cleaning time.

Remember to take care of your vacuum. Always make sure the cord is in good condition. It should not have

any cuts, it should have a ground prong on it, and it should always be untangled. Also, make sure the paper bag is changed on a regular basis. Once a bag is a third full, the vacuum loses half of its suction. An empty bag also makes for a lighter vacuum.

Make sure you are wearing the vacuum properly at all times. If you are unsure how to do so, see your manager. If your vacuum head wears down or you experience any other problems, also see your manager.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Welcome Back 09

By Mark Cappel

I wanted to welcome everyone back for the beginning of Scarlet & Gray's nineteenth year. I hope everyone had a good summer.

I want to thank everyone who worked so hard the past three months. As usual, the buildings really look

terrific. I have talked to a number of customers who are very pleased.

Welcome to all those joining us for the first time. We are glad to have you with us. By the time you read this the school year will be well underway. With the swine flu, our schools are

really counting on us to help keep their students safe this year. Please make sure we are all following procedures and working safely.

Thanks,
Mark

